

Issue: 4/18/13 East Liverpool Ohio Public Meeting

Background/Status:

Presentation of preliminary results from a health study of potential airborne manganese (Mn) neurotoxicity in adult residents of three Ohio towns (East Liverpool, Marietta, Mt. Vernon) is scheduled for an April 18, 2013 public meeting in East Liverpool, Ohio. Study results build on more than a decade of airborne Mn monitoring and study in Ohio by multiple state and federal agencies. The current study focused on East Liverpool (highest monitored outdoor air Mn in the US) and is being conducted through a USEPA-ORD contract with San Francisco State University (Dr. Rosemarie Bowler). Preliminary results show generally increasing neurologic and functional effects (e.g. slowness of movement, hand tremor, postural sway) as distance from the Mn source decreases.

Message:

- Adverse nervous system changes were detected in East Liverpool and Marietta
- Detected changes are more subtle than those seen in worker studies of greater exposures
- Relevant state and federal monitoring, enforcement and regulatory activities are ongoing

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